

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 30 SEPT 49

SUBJECT **Electro-Metallurgical Combine in Sibenik**

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1. The Electro-Metallurgical Combine in Sibenik includes the Electrosteel Works (Elektrozelezara) in Sibenik and the Aluminum factory in Lozovac near Sibenik. Built before the war, these two plants are now the most important producers of aluminum in Yugoslavia. Efforts are being made by the government to step up production, especially with regard to quality. Approximately 20 chemical engineers, including laboratory workers, are employed in the chemical laboratory of the Lozovac factory. Erich Hermann, [] is the laboratory director.
2. Bauxite mined near [] contains minerals which slow down electrolytic reduction. Engineers at the plant were accordingly ordered to work out a faster process. This is reported to have been done by Engineer Hermann in a new process which produces a 20 percent increase of alumina from the bauxite ore.
3. The laboratory is also attempting to work out a process for producing duraluminum which would free Yugoslavia from dependence on imports of this material. Of importance to the steel industry are further experiments to recover the vanadium content of bauxite ore. Engineer Valentin Lidinsky [] and Engineer Ladislav Mihely of the factory staff have so far been very successful in the latter experiments.

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